

October 11, 1950.

Dr. P. Fredericq,
Institut de Bacteriologie,
Universite de Liege,
Belgium,

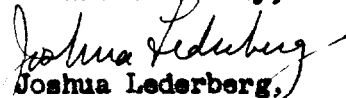
Dear Dr. Fredericq:

I am writing, firstly, to ask the favor that my name be placed upon your mailing list for reprints. I would be particularly obliged to receive a copy of your review article on colicins which appeared as a supplement to Rev. belge path. med. exp. in 1948. Of course, I should be happy to reciprocate.

As you know, I have been engaged in studying the genetic behavior of *Escherichia coli*, strain K-12. I should be interested to include in this investigation the behavior of this strain re colicins. Would the favor be too much to ask that you might compare K-12 with the types in your collection to determine whether it produces or is sensitive to a colicin already studied by yourself? I should be pleased at the opportunity to send the strain if your reply is favorable.

I should add two points: K-12 is already known to be lysogenic, but I would not be displeased to find additional indicator strains sensitive to the phage carried by K-12. Secondly, I have noticed a colicidal action whereby K-12 is sensitive to an agent produced by another *E. coli* (W-1176), but this appears to be a case of the mysterious "direct antagonism", for I have not been able to reproduce the inhibition of K-12 by any sort of cell free filtrate of W-1176 or of W-1176 + K-12. Have you often encountered, or been able to analyse the basis of "direct antagonism"?

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg,

Associate Professor of Genetics